

Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana

A Division of the



Comprehensive Community Plan

County: **Blackford**

LCC: **Drug Free Blackford County**

Date: **1/3/07**



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County Commissioners:
Blackford County Commissioners
Address: 110 W. Washington St.
City: Hartford City
Zip Code: 47348

Plan Summary

Mission Statement: The mission of the Drug Free Blackford County Board has been and continues to be:

"Effectively combine community interests, concerns, and resources to plan, develop and implement programs of prevention, education, and intervention; identify needs, design methods to contain, reduce and eliminate substance abuse; and to provide necessary help for those persons currently in need in Blackford County."

History: First organized in 1990, the Drug Free Blackford County Board is now in its 16th year with continued representation in the areas of prevention, criminal justice, and treatment. Throughout the existence of the Drug Free Board, a special effort has been made to coordinate planning and programs between Blackford County Schools, and community based organizations and agencies. As a result, there have been countywide school planned public programs. Over the past 16 years, the Board has made tremendous strides in aiding several programs. In recent years the board has been able to help agencies purchase new equipment, provide training opportunities, promote programs, assist with intervention programs and support indigent counseling opportunities for individuals.

The Board enacted by-laws in 1996 to streamline the functions of the Board and made amendments to those By-Laws in 2001 in order to further enhance and streamline the funding procedures and application process for agencies to receive funding.

Blackford County is located in the Northeastern part of Indiana. The county is approximately 14 miles square and is one of the smallest counties in Indiana. In 2000, the total population was 14, 048. There are 6, 155 housing units with 78.7% owner occupied. Of the population, 98.4 percent of the county is white with the additional percentages made up of African American, American Indiana, and Asian. In addition, 15.4 % of the population is 65 years of age or older.

The two largest cities in Blackford County are Hartford City and Montpelier. The county and towns have joined together to create the Blackford County Economic Development Corporation. Both cities have active clubs and organizations in addition to the Chamber of Commerce in each town. The people of Blackford County are generally hard working blue-collar workers who take pride in their county.

Summary of the Comprehensive Community Plan:

The area of Prevention/Education continues, as always, to be one of our strongest areas of concentration. This area has evolved and continues to grow with new programming and strengthening of existing programs. Project Grow has provided educational materials to elementary students in the area of drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention. Through activities and presentations, this program has become very successful in supporting the mission of the LCC. Red Ribbon Week activities continue to emphasize the need to stay drug free and all schools in Blackford County take part in activities to promote Red Ribbon Week.

Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement has noted little change from previous years. However, the Blackford County Sheriff's Department and Hartford City Police Department both have officers working with the Tri County Drug Task force to help reduce the number of drug deals taking place in Blackford County. The Sheriff's Department has also started a Jail Counseling Program for current inmates to help them remain drug and alcohol free upon exiting the security center. This is a new program and early signs of success can be seen among the participants.

In the area of treatment and intervention, great strides have been made. While historically there has been a hardship of counseling services available in Blackford County, there has been an increase in services in the past year. Hester Hollis Concern Center has added three Masters Degree level therapists to help with addictions counseling and adolescent treatment programs.

The Drug Free Blackford County Board recognized the importance and necessity of collaborating among segments of the county and to that end, hopes to continue to support and promote educational and informative opportunities to the public. The Board, in an effort to coordinate the county comprehensive plan and collaborate with other agencies, has continued the employment of a coordinator. The Board continues to seek involvement in the community and increase exposure to their activities.

The Problem Statements for this Comprehensive Community Plan are:

1. There is evidence of a lack of knowledge and services to address substance use among adolescents within the Community.
2. There continues to be higher consumption of alcohol and the use of substances among the population of Blackford County.
3. There is a lack of continuum of care available to address the problem of substance use in Blackford County.

As in the past, this Plan will be reviewed by the Board throughout the year to ensure continued effort toward our objectives.

Membership List

County LCC Name: Drug Free Blackford County

Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
Aaron Henderson	Coordinator	W	M	Judiciary
Andy Glentzer	Hartford City Middle School	W	M	Education
Deb Perry	Blackford Community Corrections	W	F	Judiciary
Lisa Weeks	Blackford County Probation	W	F	Judiciary
Sue Kochanek	Blackford County Probation	W	F	Judiciary
Becky Kovacs	Hester Hollis Concern Center	W	F	Treatment
Faith Spaulding	Hester Hollis Concern Center	W	F	Treatment
Ross Elwood	Montpelier Middle School	W	M	Education
Jerry Brown	Montpelier Police Department	W	M	Law enforcement
Jeff Sones	Blackford County Sheriff's Dept.	W	M	Law enforcement
Matt Felver	Hartford City Police Dept.	W	M	Law enforcement
Amy Spriggs	Youth Services Bureau	W	F	Prevention
Rae Ann O'Neil	Purdue Extension	W	F	Education
John Lancaster	Blackford County Sheriff's Department	W	M	Law Enforcement

Problem Identification

Problem Statement #1: There is evidence of a lack of knowledge and services to address substance use among adolescents within the Community.

Supportive Data:

1. In 2003, according to the Indiana Prevention Resource Center, the Indiana Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use survey found that students from Blackford County Schools reported prevalence rates higher than the State rates. In particular, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students reported prevalence rates for cigarette smoking, cigar, pipe, alcohol, marijuana, inhalants, tranquilizers, and injected drugs higher than the state rates. However, 12th grade students reported binge drinking and marijuana rates lower than the state rates.
2. In 2005, according to the Indiana Prevention Resource Center, students from Blackford County Schools again reported prevalence rates higher than state rates. In particular, 9th and 12th grade students reported prevalence rates for cigarette and smokeless tobacco that were higher than the state rates. Lifetime prevalence rates were higher than state rates for cigarettes (7th, 9th and 12th), cigars (12th), smokeless tobacco (9th and 12th), and alcohol (9th). However, 8th grade students reported lifetime prevalence rates for marijuana that were lower than the state rate.

Year 1 Update:

1. No new data has been accumulated new data is expected in 2007.
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Year 2 Update:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Final Update:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Objectives:

- 1. Support educational efforts directed towards students in grades K-12 regarding the harmful effects of substance use.**
- 2. Provide parents with information and education about statistics concerning the use of substances in youth.**
- 3. Support prevention/education provided through the schools and other community organizations, i.e. D.A.R.E., Project Grow, etc.**
- 4. Promote and support counseling services for at-risk adolescent females in Blackford County through referrals from parents and community members.**
- 5. Support tobacco education/prevention education and cessation programs in the community through Project Grow.**
- 6. Support opportunities for students to learn positive peer pressure techniques to positively influence other students within the school system.**
- 7. Promote educational opportunities within the community.**
- 8. Support youth activities in the schools, such as Red Ribbon Week.**
- 9. Explore support programs for at risk adolescent males.**

Year 1 Update:

1. Many of the programs funded by the DFBC, (DARE, Project Grow, SADD, and SEEDS) support this objective.
2. DFBC Participated in the annual 4-H Fair and other school events passing out information to individuals explaining harmful effects of ATOD.
3. DFBC Continues to support Project Grow and DARE with monetary awards. (DARE did not spend their allocation in FY2006.
4. The SEEDS Program provided services for 11 Blackford County adolescent females in 2006.
5. Project Grow continues to provide educational information in the Blackford County School System. In 2006 there were 165 students participating in the Project Grow Program. In addition, 91 Blackford County youth ages 10-14 were serviced in the Afternoons ROCK after school prevention programs in 2006. 2 programs were conducted at the Hartford City Middle School and 2 programs at the Montpelier Middle School.
6. DFBC provided funding and transportation for several Blackford County youth to participate in the Youth Summit in 2006.
7. Through the support and makeup of the DFBC Board, educational opportunities continue to be explored and supported. SADD Chapters were created within the school system in 2006.
8. Red Ribbon activities in 2006 included information dissemination, and giveaways to youth celebrating their drug free status.
9. No programs were developed or supported in this area for 2006.

Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Goals: The prevalence rates of substance abuse reported by students will be lower than the State rates by 10%.

Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

- DFBC anticipates new data for this measurement in 2007.
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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Problem Statement #2: There continues to be higher consumption of alcohol and the use of substances among the population of Blackford County.

Supportive Data:

- In comparative data from 2004 and 2005, the following results were compiled: In 2004 of the Superior Court cases filed in Blackford County, 47 % were substance related and in 2005 of the Superior Court cases filed, 55% were substance related. These substance cases include alcohol and drug related cases.
- The combined total for drug and alcohol arrests for the police agencies in the county from January 1-September 30, 2004 is as follows: 43 narcotic, 60 OWI, 15 minor in possession of alcohol, and 15 other alcohol related arrests.
- In 2003, the combined total for drug and alcohol arrests for the police agencies in the county was: 84 narcotic (due to planned drug raids), 62 OWI, 19 minor in possession, and 17 other alcohol related arrests.

Year 1 Update:

- **The Blackford County Probation Department reports that of 277 clients on probation as of 12/5/06, 49 were for Drug related convictions and 94 were for alcohol related convictions. Thus, 51% of all clients have substance abuse related concerns.**
- **For the period of January 1, 2006 to November 30, 2006 there were a total of 123 alcohol related arrests and 67 Drug related arrests in Blackford County. Thus, alcohol related arrests have increased 33.67% since 2004 and Narcotic Related arrests have increased 55.8%.**
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Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Objectives:

- 1. Encourage saturation patrols by law enforcement agencies.**
- 2. Support the dedication of more officers to the investigation of narcotics.**
- 3. Support additional training, equipment, and finances for law enforcement officers to aid in detecting the use of substances.**
- 4. Encourage court-ordered counseling for evaluation and subsequent treatment, if appropriate.**
- 5. Promote educational classes, intensive outpatient treatment including family participation, and continuing care and relapse prevention for those court-ordered, referred by employers, or self-referrals.**
- 6. Assist local agencies in increasing awareness in the community on the dangers and consequences of drug and alcohol use.**
- 7. Support the jail substance abuse program.**

Year 1 Update:

1. Local law enforcement agencies have begun participating in State Sponsored saturation patrols in Blackford County.
2. Currently there are two officers (1 – Blackford County Police Officer, 1 – Hartford City Police Officer) and two K-9 Units dedicated to the enforcement of drug related offenses.
3. Grants have been obtained outside the DFBC to provide new radios and laptop computers for Law Enforcement throughout Blackford County utilizing information in this plan.
4. Blackford County Superior and Circuit Court continues to order substance related offenders into counseling assessments on a regular basis.
5. Hester Hollis Concern Center has changed their treatment programming to a proven phase model for counseling individuals. During the FY2006 over 150 adult clients were served in their programs and over 45 adolescents have also been served.
6. The DFBC has provided educational material as well as sponsored individuals to participate in training programs to assist local agencies.
7. The substance abuse program has started in the Blackford County Jail which is certified through the Indiana Department of Correction. The DFBC provided partial funding for the first program in 2006. A total of 42 individuals were served in this program with 31 individuals completing programs in 2006.

Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Goals: Through increased patrols and investigation, the number of drug and alcohol arrests in Blackford County will increase by 8%.

Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

- **For the period ending November 30, 2006 alcohol arrests have increased by 33.67% and Narcotic arrests have increased 55.8% from two years ago.**
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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Problem Statement #3: There is a lack of continuum of care available to address the problem of substance use in Blackford County.

Supportive Data:

- In 2005, a total of 33 adolescents have been assessed and referred for services in Blackford County and 3 from Jay County, to address substance abuse treatment needs and mental health concerns.
- There have been 4 adolescents in individual therapy for mental health concerns since January 2005; 8 adolescents were scheduled for assessment and recommendations and did not follow-through on the appointments; 5 have been referred for either a Substance Abuse Education Program or Teen Girls' Group; 16 have been referred to Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program.
- Clients involved in substance abuse programs between January and September 2005 total 80 with an additional 20 enrolled during October. An estimated 20 more will be served between November and December 2005 for a combined total of 120 adult clients projected to be served in 2005.
- Clients in Blackford County do not have the same opportunities of counseling services as surrounding counties. Progress has been made but there currently are no support programs for adolescent males. These young boys have to travel outside of Blackford County to receive services.
- Currently, Blackford County does not have services specifically available for battered women.
- Teens interested in an Ala-teen program must travel to surrounding counties to receive such services.

Year 1 Update:

- From January through August 2006 there were 15 adolescents treated for substance related concerns at the Hester Hollis Concern Center (the only provider in Blackford County). In August, the program was suspended due to the lack of participation. Since that time the program has re-started under a new style program. This program now supports 6 local adolescents.
- The adult addiction service program at the Hester Hollis Concern Center (the only provider in Blackford County) has served in excess of 150 clients.
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Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Objectives:

1. Promote the expansion of available meeting times for AA in Blackford County.
2. Support the jail substance abuse program.
3. Support the inception of a batterer's program.
4. Support the inception of a Ala-non program for families of addicted persons.
5. Support the services provided to adolescent females in group counseling focusing on substance abuse issues.
6. Actively support adolescent treatment programming in Blackford County, which would include the continuum of services through diagnosis to aftercare.
7. Support an increase in drug testing of clients receiving services at the local treatment facility, to insure their continued sobriety throughout the treatment process.
8. Support the inception of an adolescent male group that deals with substance abuse issues.
9. Support the inception of an Ala-teen program for families of addicted persons.

Year 1 Update:

1. DFBC in conjunction with local resources have helped implement AA Meetings within the Blackford County Jail as well as providing alternate locations within the county to hold meetings.
2. The DFBC has partially funded the jail substance abuse program which now is certified by the Indiana Department of Correction through the efforts of the Blackford County Community Corrections Department and the Hester Hollis Concern Center. (Both of which are represented on the DFBC Board.)
3. The Hester Hollis Concern Center has created an “Anger Management for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Clients” program as outlined through a curriculum from the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services. This program served 12 adult clients in 2006.
4. No progress has been made in this area.
5. SEEDS have provided counseling services to 11 area adolescent females funded through the DFBC.
6. The Hester Hollis Concern Center has provided counseling services to 15 clients through August 2006.
7. Funding has been provided to Hester Hollis Concern Center for the testing of 48 adolescents and 285 adult clients in 2006 as a part of the continuum of counseling services.
8. No progress has been made in this area.
9. No progress has been made in this area.

Year 2 Update:

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Final Update:

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Goals: Support service programs will be expanded by two programs.

Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

- The DFBC has helped support the Jail Substance Abuse treatment program, as well as AA within the Jail. Additionally, counseling programs has been modified at the Hester Hollis Concern Center to a newer proven model of treatment.
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Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report:

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Please attach the County's Fiscal Report for review!

Next Annual Update Due: 1/2008

Next Comprehensive Community Plan Due: 1/2009

Date of Community Consultant Review: 1/29/07

Disclaimer:

You agree that the information provided within this Plan is subject to the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions may be modified at any time and from time to time; the date of the most recent changes or revisions will be established by the Commission and sent electronically to all Local Coordinating Councils.

Terms and Conditions:

The information and data provided is presented as factual and accurate. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding the data submitted within the Plan. Failure to do so could result in a "denied approval" by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

The Local Drug Free Communities Fund must be spent according to the goals identified within the plan. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding funds that are collected, allocated, and disbursed within the county. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

Initials: AMH